



Missouri Sentencing Advisory Commission

SMART SENTENCING

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THE U.S. PRISON POPULATION AT ALL TIME HIGH

One in 31 adults are under *correctional control*¹ in the U.S., according to the March 2009 report, *One in 31: The Long Reach of American Corrections*, by the Pew Center on the States.²

The United States has the world's highest incarceration rate, with one in every 100 people behind bars. With just five percent of the world's population, we house 25% of the world's prisoners. Of particular relevance to those involved in sentencing, the increase in incarceration has not been driven by an increase in crime. Instead, sentencing and other correctional policies have driven the increase.

National Snapshot

The U.S. population grew 10.8% in the 90s, the largest proportional increase in history. (U.S. Census data)

The correctional population more than kept up with this general population growth, increasing by 180%.

- In the early 80s, one in 77 adults was under correctional control.
- In 2007, one in 31 U.S. adults was under correctional control: 31% of them were incarcerated in jail and prison; the rest remained in the community.

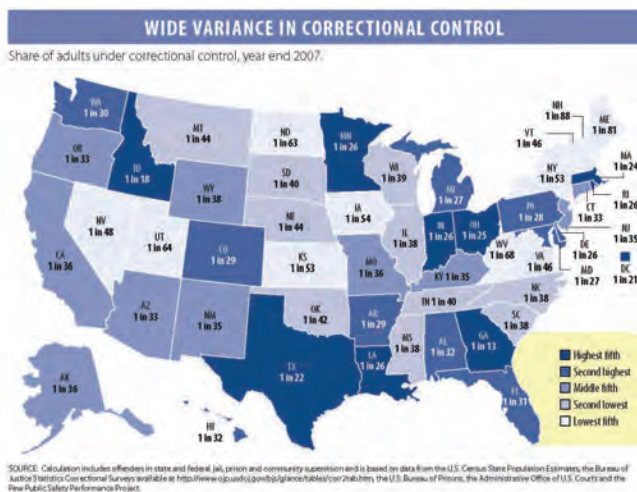
Senators Webb (D-VA) and Spector (R-PA) recently proposed a bill to create a National

Criminal Justice Commission that would be charged with reviewing all aspects of the criminal justice system nationwide.

Missouri Snapshot

Missouri population grew by 9.3 % from 1990 to 2000 and the prison population grew 184% during the same time period. (Office of Social and Economic Data Analysis and Bureau of Justice Statistics data)

- In the early 80s, one in 97 Missouri adults was under correctional control.



- In 2007, in Missouri one in 36 adults was under correctional control; 32% of them were incarcerated in jail and prison.

¹Correctional control is defined as offenders who are either under supervision as probationers and parolees or are prison and jail inmates.

²The full report can be found at:

www.pewcenteronthestates.org/report_detail.aspx?id=49382

INTRODUCTORY NOTE:

Smart Sentencing involves using the latest in statistics, information, research findings and evidenced-based practice to make informed decisions about how to punish criminal behavior. The Sentencing Advisory Commission has launched this periodic bulletin to keep judicial decision-makers current as to the latest information related to sentencing practices and their impacts. The bulletin is being distributed to judges, prosecutors, public defenders, probation officers and the public via email and on the SAC Website: www.mosac.mo.gov.

Comments and suggestions are welcome and should be sent to: smart.sentencing@courts.mo.gov.

MOSAC
Is dedicated to supporting public safety, fairness, and effectiveness in criminal sentencing



1 in 31: The Long Reach of American Corrections Missouri

POPULATION

1 in 36 adults^{1,2}

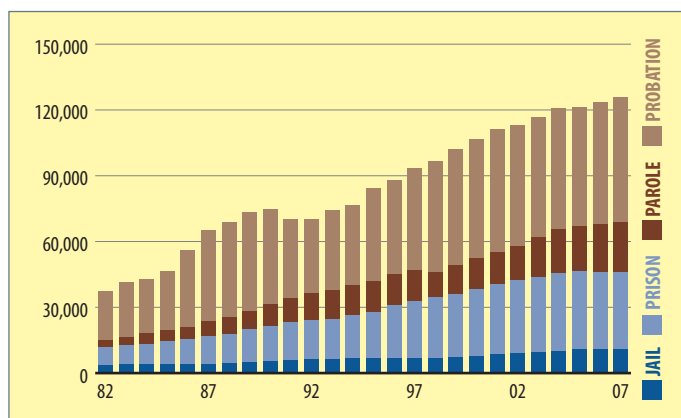
is under correctional control

- **Growth over time:** in 1982, the figure was 1 in 97 adults^{1,2}
- **Percent behind bars:** at year end 2007, 37 percent of the correctional population was in prison or jail (national rank: 22); the figure for 1982 was 32 percent (national rank: 22)¹

POPULATION, RATES AND RANKS (YEAR END 2007)

Population			Combined Population	Share of adults	National rank
	State	Federal			
Probation	56,240 ¹	548 ³	79,578	1 in 56	26
Parole	19,849 ¹	2,941 ³			
Prison	29,857 ¹	5,539 ⁴	46,035	1 in 97	19
Jail	10,639 ⁵				
Total	125,613			1 in 36	27

TOTAL CORRECTIONAL POPULATION



COSTS

\$575 million⁶

spent on corrections

- **Share of general fund:** 6.8 percent in fiscal year 2008⁶
- **Ratio of spending:** For every dollar Missouri spent on prisons in 2008, it spent 20 cents on probation and parole⁵
- **Ratio of costs:** 1 day of prison (\$45.02) = 13 days of probation and parole⁵

CORRECTIONS COSTS



SOURCES:

1) Bureau of Justice Statistics, Correctional Surveys (U.S. Department of Justice); 2) U.S. Census, State Population Estimates; 3) Administrative Office of U.S. Courts; 4) Bureau of Prisons (U.S. Department of Justice); 5) Pew, Original Data; 6) National Association of State Budget Officers, State Expenditure Reports

Download the full report and explanatory notes by visiting www.pewcenteronthestates.org/publicsafety



The Pew Charitable Trusts applies the power of knowledge to solve today's most challenging problems. Our Pew Center on the States (PCS) identifies and advances effective policy approaches to critical issues facing states. Launched in 2006 as a project of PCS, the Public Safety Performance Project seeks to help states advance fiscally sound, data-driven policies and practices in sentencing and corrections that protect public safety, hold offenders accountable and control corrections costs.

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